

Boyertown Area School District

Travel Guidelines for Students and Staff – Revised 2/7/2021

Purpose: To minimize the potential transmission of Covid-19 virus from individuals returning to the BASD.

Although the PA Department of Health has implemented the travel order for the Commonwealth, the Boyertown Area School District has the jurisdiction to implement additional safeguards that may exceed the established guidelines of the State order.

The District will be following these **best practice guidelines** through the end of the 2020-2021 school year: Please note, they differ from the Department of Health's amended policies.

- The school district will utilize the quarantine period of 14 days (best practice) especially when we are in a substantial level of transmission or having an increase of cases at the district/building level.
- The test must be from a specimen collected within 72 hours prior to entering the Commonwealth or collected during the 14-day travel quarantine period.
- BASD requires **ALL school age** students to be tested, not just those over 11 years of age, before coming back to school.
- If you choose to quarantine only and not test:
 - Students will be required to attend virtually during the 14-day quarantine period.
 - Staff who choose to quarantine and not test will be required to use personal or vacation time and will not be granted “work from home approval”. Use of sick days will not be permitted.
 - Any additional days needed to quarantine will be days without pay. Staff members may work virtually on a Wednesday if it falls in their quarantine period as this is an option for all teachers at this time.

Procedure: for students and staff who wish to return without completing the 14-day quarantine period.

- **Staff**
 - Please make Human Resources aware of the date of travel at **least 1 week prior to the date of travel.**
 - Schedule your return testing date prior to leaving, if able to do so.
 - Report your test results to Human resources via email, upon receiving them.
 - See testing guidelines below and exemptions.

- **Students/Families**

- Complete and submit to your child's school, an Educational Trip Form found on the school website, under parent resource/forms/Educational Trip Form.
- Schedule your return testing date prior to leaving, if able to do so.
- Report your test results to the School Principal via email, **prior to returning** to school.
- See testing guidelines and exemptions below.
- Siblings from the same family, who attended a trip simultaneously need to be tested as well, prior to returning to school. You cannot just test 1 sibling and not the others.

Testing:

- The test must be a diagnostic Covid-19 test authorized by the Food and Drug Administration.
- The test must be a **PCR or rapid test** that is completed and sent out for analysis. (no home tests allowed at this time). This should NEVER be a blood sample test, only a nose swab or mouth swab.
- Test results must have a clear chain of custody: identification of the individual who was tested, name, DOB, social security number. Clear identification of results and who they belong to.
- **Both** negative and positive test results must be shared with the BASD school district, prior to the student/staff returning to school.
- Testing arrangements should be made prior to leaving for scheduled travel, thereby eliminating delays returning to school.

Exemptions:

- Traveling for purposes of work
- Medical reasons, defined by Doctor's written documentation, including individuals providing comfort and support to the patient.
- If travel is less than 24 hours duration
- Military orders or directives
- Anyone in transit through the Commonwealth to another destination
- Travel to comply with a court order (including custody).
- The exemptions in this Section **do not apply** to travelers who, within the previous 14 days, attended gatherings larger than those permitted by the Commonwealth. (large gatherings)

We continue to recommend that Employees/Students do not travel. We recognize that there are times that travel is unavoidable. Keep in mind that the district must adhere to its attestation promise and enforce mitigation practices to protect the district from transmission of this devastating virus.”